Setting up of more Labour Courts

1243. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to set up more Labour Courts to settle the cases expeditiously;

(b) if so, the instructions given to the State Governments to set up such courts; and

(c) the State Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals are set up by the State Governments according to Workload. In August, 1989 State Governments were requested to review the disputes pending in various Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals and to take remedial action by setting up of additional Courts and Tribunals wherever necessary. A national seminar of Presiding Officers of Tribunals and Labour Courts was also held in March1990 to discuss about measures to make adjudication more effective. According to the available information a number of Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals have been set up in 1989 by diflerent State Governments.

Accident at Sripur Seam Incline under Eastern Coalfields Ltd.

1244. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an accident at Sripur Seam Incline under Sripur areas of Eastern coalfields Ltd. on the 23rd January, 1990;

(b) if so, what were the causes of the accident; and

(c) what action has been taken by the Director General, Mines Safety in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While a gang of loaders was running to sarety after hearing the warning whistle of an overman about an impending fall of roof in the goal, some of them were thrown on the ground due to high velocity of air expelled from the goaf, resulting in fatal injury to one loader and serious bodily injury to another.

(c) The inquiry into the accident conducted by an officer of the Directorate General of mines safety revealed that the sudden collapse of the roof could not be anticipated and that the accident was not on account of lapse on the part of any person.

Safety in open cast coal mines

1245. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the statutory provisions are adequate to ensure safety of workers in the open cast coal mines; and

(b) if not, whether Government have any plan to suitably modify the statutes for safe operation of the Open Cast Coal Mines?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) provisions for safety, health and welfare of workers employed in mines including open cast mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and the regulations framed thereunder. These are reviewed from time to time by the Ministry of Labour. Guidelines, wherever called for are also issued by the Director General of Mines Safety. The management of mines are required to comply with these provisions.

The 7th Conference on Safety in Mines held on the 19th & the 20th December, 1988 made several recommendations for improving the status of safety in open cast mines. These recommendations related to framing of (i) a Code of traffic for

regulating the movement of heavy earth moving machinery (HEMM), (ii) a Code of practice for prevention of injuries to persons engaged in tipping on stock piles, dumping of overburden at dump yards, at loading points etc., (iii) Codes of practice for dealing with fires, prescribing the design and the maintenance of haul roads as well as drawing up and implementing schemes for proper maintenance, repair, overhaul and erection of heavy earth moving machinery, selection of qualified operation and drivers for heavy earth moving machinery, provision of suitable training centres for drivers and operators and provision of sufficient lighting arrangements etc. The recommendations of the Conference have been sent to all concerned and action for framing the Codes of practice has been initiated.

Improvement in catering system in New Delhi|Nizamuddin Delhi-Puri bound trains

1246. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the catering system in New Delhi|Nizamuddin Delhi-Puri bound trains needs improvement;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps in that regard;

(c) if not, whether any specific proposal is under Government's consideration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The trains have been provided with pantry cars and the existing catering arrangements are considered satisfactory. However, to maintain the quality of food and service, steps taken include modernisation of Base Kitchens|Refreshment Rooms, introduction of casserole service, use of hot trolleys, training to staff, intensifying of inspections and action against the staff responsible for lapses, if any.

Registration of plots on flats by D.D.A.

1247. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applicants who have registered their names through various schemes in Delhi Development Authority for the allotment of plots, houses etc. so far;

(b) whether a large number of them have not been allotted houses/plots so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) DDA have so far registered 3,18,855 persons for allotment of flats under various schemes and 62,384 persons for allotment of plots under Rohini Residential scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) All the registrants could not be allotted plots|flats due to non availability of land, unauthorised encroachment, non availability of essential service etc.

(d) For allotment of flats to the remaining registrants, the DDA have prepared a Year wise action plan as under:

Year	No. of flats to be constructed
1990-91	12,600
1991-92	19,000
1992-93	26,000
1993-94	26,500
	84,100

The remaining residents under Rohini Residential scheme are proposed to be allotted plots within a period of 4 to 5 years, 10,000 registrants will be accommodated in Rohini Phase III. For accommodating the balance registrants it is proposed to acquire another 2500 Hectares of land.